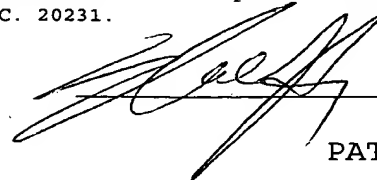


OFFICE
69169
SEP 30 1997
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date set forth below as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:
Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Signature and Deposit: September 26, 1997



PATENT

#6/A
COPR.
10/18/97

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: James A. Thomson

Date: September 26, 1997

Serial No.: 08/591,246

Group Art Unit: 1815

Filed: January 18, 1996

File No.: 960296.93723

For: PRIMATE EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS

Examiner: B. Brumback

AMENDMENT

RECEIVED
OCT 15 1997

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 29, 1997 in the file of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1, 3, and 9 as follows:

91 1. (Amended) A purified preparation of primate embryonic stem cells which (i) is capable of proliferation [in vitro] in an in vitro culture for over one year, (ii) maintains a [normal] karyotype in which all the chromosomes characteristic of the primate species are present and not noticeably altered through prolonged culture, (iii) maintains the potential to